

# FRIEND OF THE COURT BUREAU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I

#### Name

The name of the body is the Advisory Committee to the State Friend of the Court Bureau (hereinafter referred to as the "Advisory Committee.")

### ARTICLE II

#### Purpose

The Advisory Committee was established pursuant to Michigan Public Act No. 294 of 1982 (the "Statute") and shall conduct business and do such acts as permitted or required by the Statute.

### ARTICLE III

#### Membership

Section 1. Membership on the Advisory Committee shall be limited to those persons appointed pursuant to the Statute and such other ex-officio members as determined by the State Court Administrator or his/her designee.

Section 2. A statutory member's term shall be for a period of three (3) consecutive years. A statutory member may serve no more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms. The term of one (1) member from each of three (3) statutory categories of membership shall expire each year. For purposes hereof, the appointment to fill an unexpired term shall not be counted towards the preceding limitation.

Section 3. Two current friends of the court should be appointed as ex-officio members, serving terms as determined by the State Court Administrator or his/her designee. The friend of the court association may recommend candidates for the State Court Administrator to consider appointing.

Section 4. A member shall be deemed to resign if he or she has (i) been absent from two consecutive regular meetings without prior notification of the absence or (ii) one-third of the consecutive regularly scheduled meetings within a year. If a member is absent, it shall be noted in the minutes of the Advisory Committee together with the reason for the absence. Excused absences, as determined by the chairperson, shall not be counted for purposes of this section.

Section 5. The right to vote shall be limited to only those members appointed pursuant to the Statute.

#### ARTICLE IV Annual and Special Meetings of the Committee

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Advisory Committee shall be held on such date, time and place as determined by the Advisory Committee, but in no event more than sixty (60) days after October 1 of each year. Notice of the annual meeting shall be mailed to each member of the Advisory Committee at least thirty (30) days prior thereto.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Advisory Committee may be called by the chairperson at any time. Special meetings shall also be called by the chairperson upon the written petition of at least five (5) members of the Advisory Committee requesting the call of a special meeting. Fourteen (14) days prior written notice of all special meetings of the Advisory Committee shall be given to all members.

Section 3. The quorum at all meetings of the Advisory Committee shall consist of five (5) members. A majority vote of members present shall be necessary for the passage of any motion.

#### ARTICLE V Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Advisory Committee shall be the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson. The officers shall be elected by the nine (9) members of the Advisory Committee appointed pursuant to the Statute at an annual meeting of the Advisory Committee. The elected officers shall serve for a one (1) year term and shall not be eligible for re-election more than twice.

Section 2. The Vice-Chairperson shall assume the office of the Chairperson on all occasions when the Chairperson is unable to fulfill the duties of the office.

Section 3. Officers' duties shall be such as usually appertain to each office.

Section 4. Vacancies in any elected office shall be filled for the unexpired term of such office by a majority vote of the members of the

Advisory Committee present at a meeting. Intention to fill such vacancies shall be included in the notice of any such meeting, which shall be mailed at least twenty-one(21) days prior to such meeting.

## ARTICLE VI Committees

Section 1. There shall be special and standing committees as may be established by the Chairperson with the approval of the Advisory Committee.

Section 2. The members of all committees shall be appointed by the Chairperson.

Section 3. Members of special and standing committees, except as otherwise specifically provided in these Bylaws, need not be members of the Advisory Committee.

Section 4. One member of each committee shall be designated by the Chairperson as chairperson.

Section 5. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 6. The State Court Administrator or the person he/she designates as director of the Friend of the Court Bureau shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

## ARTICLE VII Indemnification of Officers and Directors

Section 1. Any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that he is or was a member of the Advisory Committee, shall be indemnified against reasonable expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with such action, suite or proceeding in the manner and to the full extent permitted by Michigan law. The indemnification provided hereunder shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a member of the Advisory Committee and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such person.

Section 2. The foregoing statement of representation and indemnification is the understanding of the members of the Advisory Committee as to the current status of Michigan law relative to Advisory Committee members to various governmental agencies and is not construed as any special indemnification agreement for members of the Friend of the Court Bureau Advisory Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Advisory Committee shall be from October 1 to September 30.

## ARTICLE IX Amendments

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting, of the Advisory Committee, as a regular or special meeting of the Advisory Committee, provided that notice is given that an amendment or amendments to the Bylaws will be proposed at such meeting. A copy of the Bylaws and the proposed amendments shall be sent with the notice of the meeting at least twenty-one (21) days prior to said meeting.